

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

### ***Schumer Study: New York's School Districts Could Face Almost \$89 Million Shortfall For Transportation and Heating Costs***

Across New York State, heating and transportation costs are breaking New York school districts budgets, despite advance planning on the part of administrators. The 572 school districts in Upstate New York have increased their collective budgets for heating and transportation fuels by **\$63 million** or **18%** from **\$352 million** to **\$415 million** and anticipated an additional shortfall of **\$88.7 million** in funds for heating and transportation fuels. The average school district increased its budget for heating and transportation fuels to **18.4%** to **\$732,000** from **\$618,000** in 2004-2005. Despite the anticipated rise in fuel costs, the average district still faces a shortfall of over **\$155,000**.

There were dramatic regional differences in the amount budgets increased between 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, as well as in the anticipated shortfall amounts.

Region	Average Budget Increase For Heating and Transportation	Average Shortfall Anticipated In Addition To Budget Increase
Capital Region	\$127,463 (18%)	\$114,472
Central New York	\$145,371 (13%)	\$127,000
Hudson Valley	\$176,176 (31%)	\$187,727
North Country	\$45,593 (16%)	\$70,543
Rochester/Finger Lakes	\$175,056 (19%)	\$201,357
Southern Tier	\$38,527 (13%)	\$81,825
Western New York	\$64,376 (9%)	\$295,682

The Schumer Study surveyed 128 schools in New York State; out of those 129 86% reported a shortfall for fuel costs. (Of the remaining 14% most said they would have a shortfall but did not know how significant it would be.)

There are **72 school districts** in the **Capital Region**. The average school spent **\$825,000** this year, up **18%** from last year, and still faces a **\$114,000 shortfall**. This means that the **Capital Region** as a whole could spend over **\$59 million** on fuels this year and could face an additional shortfall of over **\$8 million**. Schumer's Study surveyed 23 of 72 school districts in the Capital Region.

School District (County)	2004-2005 Heating and Transport. Budget	2005-2006 Heating and Transport. Budget	Budget Increase (in anticipation of higher energy costs)	Projected Shortfall Above Budgeted Increase
<i>Average School District</i>	\$697,655	\$825,118	\$127,463 (18%)	\$114,472
<b>Regional Total</b>	<b>\$50,231,157</b>	<b>\$59,408,496</b>	<b>\$9,177,339</b> (18%)	<b>\$8,242,010</b>
<b>Albany CSD (Albany)</b>	\$3,269,500	\$3,738,000	\$618,500 (14%)	\$150,000
<b>Amsterdam (Montgomery)</b>	\$1,244,787	\$1,372,577	\$127,790 (10%)	\$82,554
<b>Troy (Rensselaer)</b>	\$1,627,078	\$2,088,200	\$461,122 (28%)	\$100,000
<b>Saratoga Springs (Saratoga)</b>	\$750,000	\$835,000	\$85,000 (11%)	\$350,000
<b>Rotterdam- Mohonasen (Schenectady)</b>	\$825,000	\$925,000	\$100,000 (12%)	\$200,000
<b>Middleburgh (Schoharie)</b>	\$144,075	\$197,700	\$53,625 (37%)	\$70,000
<b>Johnstown (Fulton)</b>	\$581,000	\$650,000	\$69,000 (12%)	\$75,000
<b>Argyle (Washington)</b>	\$72,000	\$105,000	\$33,000 (46%)	\$35,000

There are **57 school districts** in the **Central New York Region**. The average school spent **\$1,225,000** this year, up **13%** from last year, and still faces a **\$127,000 shortfall**. This means that the **Central New York Region** as a whole could spend over **\$69 million** on fuels this year and could face an additional shortfall of over **\$7.2 million**. Schumer Study surveyed 14 of 57 school districts in Central New York.

<b>School District (County)</b>	<b>2004-2005 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>2005-2006 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>Budget Increase (in anticipation of higher energy costs)</b>	<b>Projected Shortfall Above Budgeted Increase</b>
<i>Average School District</i>	<i>\$1,080,027</i>	<i>\$1,225,398</i>	<i>\$145,371 (13%)</i>	<i>\$127,000</i>
<b>Regional Total</b>	<b>\$61,561,539</b>	<b>\$69,847,694</b>	<b>\$8,286,155 (13%)</b>	<b>\$7,239,000</b>
<b>Syracuse (Onondaga)</b>	\$6,849,615	\$7,258,645	\$409,030 (6%)	\$185,000
<b>Liverpool (Onondaga)</b>	\$2,385,000	\$2,585,000	\$200,000 (8%)	\$185,000
<b>Rome City (Oneida)</b>	\$1,065,000	\$1,520,000	\$455,000 (43%)	\$200,000
<b>Cortland (Cortland)</b>	\$365,000	\$423,000	\$58,000 (16%)	\$75,000
<b>Chittenango (Madison)</b>	\$372,000	\$445,040	\$73,040 (20%)	\$56,000
<b>Central Square (Oswego)</b>	\$255,138	\$285,000	\$29,862 (12%)	\$150,000

There are **122 school districts** in the **Hudson Valley Region**. The average school spent over **\$730,000** this year, up **31%** from last year, and still faces a **\$187,000 shortfall**. This means that the **Hudson Valley Region** as a whole could spend over **\$89 million** on fuels this year and could face an additional shortfall of over **\$22.9 million**. Schumer's Study surveyed 19 of 122 school districts in the Hudson Valley.

School District (County)	2004-2005 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget	2005-2006 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget	Budget Increase (in anticipation of higher energy costs)	Projected Shortfall Above Budgeted Increase
<i>Average School District</i>	<i>\$554,323</i>	<i>\$730,499.00</i>	<i>\$176,176.00 (31%)</i>	<i>\$187,727</i>
<b>Regional Totals</b>	<b>\$67,627,406</b>	<b>\$89,120,878</b>	<b>\$21,493,472 (31%)</b>	<b>\$22,902,694</b>
<b>New Rochelle (Westchester)</b>	\$762,000	\$857,000	\$95,000 (12%)	\$200,000
<b>Hastings on Hudson (Westchester)</b>	\$124,000	\$165,000	\$41,000 (33%)	\$40,000
<b>Clarkstown (Rockland)</b>	\$1,242,000	\$1,630,282	\$388,282 (31%)	\$387,463
<b>Monroe- Woodbury (Orange)</b>	\$2,123,253	\$3,537,932	\$1,414,679 (67%)	\$280,000
<b>Warwick Valley (Orange)</b>	\$580,000	\$910,000	\$330,000 (57%)	\$229,000
<b>Carmel (Putnam)</b>	\$490,000	\$620,000	\$130,000 (27%)	\$160,000
<b>Onteora (Ulster)</b>	\$408,245	\$444,839	\$36,594 (9%)	\$215,000
<b>Millbrook (Dutchess)</b>	\$164,000	\$231,000	\$67,000 (41%)	\$198,200
<b>Greenville (Greene)</b>	\$326,472	\$336,000	\$9,528 (3%)	\$194,431

There are **86 school districts** in the **North Country Region**. The average school spent **\$340,000** this year, up **16%** from last year, and still faces a **\$70,000 shortfall**. This means that the **North Country Region** as a whole could spend over **\$29 million** on fuels this year and could face an additional shortfall of over **\$6 million**. Schumer's Study surveyed 18 of 86 districts in the North Country.

<b>School District (County)</b>	<b>2004-2005 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>2005-2006 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>Budget Increase (in anticipation of higher energy costs)</b>	<b>Projected Shortfall Above Budgeted Increase</b>
<i>Average School District</i>	<b>\$294,699</b>	<b>\$340,292</b>	<b>\$45,593 (16%)</b>	<b>\$70,543</b>
<b>Regional Totals</b>	<b>\$25,344,109</b>	<b>\$29,265,136</b>	<b>\$3,921,027 (16%)</b>	<b>\$6,066,692</b>
<b>Plattsburgh (Clinton)</b>	\$431,423	\$403,100	-\$28,323 (-7%)	\$28,225
<b>Lake Placid (Essex)</b>	\$108,000	\$134,000	\$26,000 (24%)	\$50,000
<b>Malone (Franklin)</b>	\$927,222	\$1,138,200	\$210,978 (23%)	\$200,000
<b>Glens Falls (Warren)</b>	\$881,700	\$946,500	\$64,800 (7%)	n/a
<b>Jefferson (Watertown)</b>	\$652,704	\$694,772	\$42,068 (6%)	\$46,000
<b>Massena (St. Lawrence)</b>	\$513,000	\$680,000	\$167,000 (33%)	\$150,000
<b>Beaver River (Lewis)</b>	\$195,000	\$273,000	\$78,000 (40%)	\$80,000
<b>Indian Lake (Hamilton)</b>	\$28,000	\$46,000	\$18,000 (64%)	\$10,000
<b>Town of Webb (Herkimer)</b>	\$103,000	\$132,000	\$29,000 (28%)	\$20,000

There are **66 school districts** in the **Rochester/Finger Lakes Region**. The average school spent **\$1,094,000** this year, up **19%** from last year, and still faces a **\$201,000 shortfall**. This means that the **Rochester/Finger Lakes Region** as a whole could spend over **\$72 million** on fuels this year and could face an additional shortfall of over **\$13 million**. Schumer's Study surveyed 15 of 66 schools in the Rochester/Finger Lakes region.

<b>Case Study</b>	<b>2004-2005 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>2005-2006 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>Budget Increase (in anticipation of higher energy costs)</b>	<b>Projected Shortfall Above Budgeted Increase</b>
<i><b>Average School District</b></i>	<b>\$918,898</b>	<b>\$1,093,954</b>	<b>\$175,056 (19%)</b>	<b>\$201,357</b>
<b>Regional Totals</b>	<b>\$60,647,235</b>	<b>\$72,200,940</b>	<b>\$11,744,163 (19%)</b>	<b>\$13,289,571</b>
<b>Rochester (Monroe)</b>	\$7,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$2,000,000 (29%)	\$1,900,000
<b>Pittsford (Monroe)</b>	\$664,000	\$700,000	\$36,000 (5%)	\$105,000
<b>Canandaigua (Ontario)</b>	\$1,070,000	\$1,110,000	\$40,000 (4%)	\$150,000
<b>Seneca Falls (Seneca)</b>	\$291,550	\$324,356	\$32,806 (11%)	\$20,000
<b>Auburn City (Cayuga)</b>	\$1,390,000	\$1,395,000	\$5,000 (.003%)	Not reported
<b>Newark (Wayne)</b>	\$131,000	\$131,000	\$0	\$45,000
<b>Groton (Tompkins)</b>	\$132,400	\$162,000	\$70,000 (22%)	Not reported

There are **89 school districts** in the **Southern Tier Region**. The average school spent almost **\$335,000** this year, up **13%** from last year, and still faces a **\$81,000 shortfall**. This means that the **Southern Tier Region** as a whole could spend over **\$29 million** on fuels this year and could face an additional shortfall of over **\$7.3 million**. Schumer's Study surveyed 16 of 89 school districts in the Southern Tier.

<b>School District (County)</b>	<b>2004-2005 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>2005-2006 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>Budget Increase (in anticipation of higher energy costs)</b>	<b>Projected Shortfall Above Budgeted Increase</b>
<b>Average School District</b>	<b>\$296,262</b>	<b>\$334,789</b>	<b>\$38,527 (13%)</b>	<b>\$81,825</b>
<b>Regional Totals</b>	<b>\$26,577,481</b>	<b>\$29,796,187</b>	<b>\$3,428,882 (13%)</b>	<b>\$7,282,425</b>
<b>Binghamton (Broome)</b>	<b>\$854,000</b>	<b>\$854,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$61,000</b>
<b>Whitney Pines (Broome)</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>	<b>\$290,000</b>	<b>\$65,000 (29%)</b>	<b>\$175,000</b>
<b>Norwich (Chenango)</b>	<b>\$445,000</b>	<b>\$430,000</b>	<b>-\$15,000 (-3%)</b>	<b>\$110,000</b>
<b>Wellsville (Allegany)</b>	<b>\$275,200</b>	<b>\$231,000</b>	<b>-\$44,200 (-16%)</b>	<b>\$145,000</b>
<b>Corning (Steuben)</b>	<b>\$834,107</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$165,893 (20%)</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>Candor (Tioga)</b>	<b>\$68,700</b>	<b>\$83,900</b>	<b>\$15,200 (15%)</b>	<b>\$41,000</b>
<b>Otego- Unandilla (Otsego)</b>	<b>\$225,195</b>	<b>\$311,250</b>	<b>\$86,055 (38%)</b>	<b>\$112,000</b>
<b>Delhi (Delaware)</b>	<b>\$286,000</b>	<b>\$307,750</b>	<b>\$21,750 (8%)</b>	<b>\$88,000</b>

There are **88 school districts** in the **Western New York Region**. The average school budgeted **\$817,839** this year, up **9%** from last year, and still faces an almost **\$295,000** shortfall. This means that the **Western New York Region** as a whole could spend over **\$65 million** on fuels this year and could face an additional shortfall of almost **\$23.7 million**. Schumer's Study surveyed 23 of 80 school districts in Western New York.

<b>Case Study</b>	<b>2004-2005 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>2005-2006 Heat and Transport Fuel Budget</b>	<b>Budget Increase (in anticipation of higher energy costs)</b>	<b>Projected Shortfall Above Budgeted Increase</b>
<i><b>Average School District</b></i>	<b>\$753,862</b>	<b>\$817,839</b>	<b>\$64,376 (9%)</b>	<b>\$295,682</b>
<b>Regional Totals</b>	<b>\$60,276,996</b>	<b>\$65,427,080</b>	<b>\$5,150,084 (9%)</b>	<b>\$23,654,560</b>
<b>Buffalo (Erie)</b>	\$6,548,539	\$7,006,836	\$458,297 (7%)	\$2,000,000
<b>Amherst (Erie)</b>	\$375,000	\$430,000	\$55,000 (15%)	\$299,200
<b>Jamestown (Chautauqua)</b>	\$430,000	\$670,000	\$240,000 (56%)	\$390,000
<b>Ellicottville (Chautauqua)</b>	\$127,695	\$139,050	\$11,355 (9%)	\$5,000
<b>Niagara Falls (Niagara)</b>	\$1,016,000	\$1,035,000	\$19,000 (2%)	\$545,000
<b>Lockport (Niagara)</b>	\$840,232	\$815,232	-\$25,000 (-3%)	\$200,000
<b>Attica (Wyoming)</b>	\$820,000	\$829,705	\$9,705 (1%)	\$300,000
<b>Batavia (Genesee)</b>	\$790,000	\$840,000	\$50,000 (6%)	\$220,000

**\*\*To come up with regional and statewide totals, Schumer took the average for each region and multiplied by the number of school districts in each region. All individual school data is self-reported.**